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UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
MEDICAL CENTER
4200 EAST NINTH AVENUE
DENVER, COLORADO 80220

May 3, 1965

COLORADO GENERAL HOSPITAL
COLORADO PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITAL
CHILDREN'S DIAGNOSTIC CENTER
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SCHOOL OF NURSING

John E. Fogarty
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear sir:

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House. At some point in the very near future, you will be reviewing the appropriations assigned to the National Institute of Health and to probably several other departments in the federal government broadly devoted to the wide field of "Health in the United States".

I wish to call to your attention that every medical school in the country has been receiving an annual grant in the amount of \$25,000 designated as Undergraduate Cancer Training Grants, the purpose of which was to augment the efforts in the medical schools devoted to the broad problem of cancer. All such schools recently received notification that effective July 1, 1966 that these grants would be terminated.

In our school as in a great many others, this annual grant has been used to underwrite the expenses of the cancer clinic. Cancer Clinics are special clinics within the teaching institution where all cancer patients are channeled and as such are treated by the best talent available in that local area, provided with continuity of care and are assured of constant attendance regardless of whether the treatment to control the cancer is successful or not. Around this clinic naturally gravitate a large share of all cancer research projects and a great many cancer teaching fellowships.

It has always seemed a paradox to me that there is never any problem receiving support for something that can be related to cancer research. On the other hand, little thought ever seems to be given to the fact that a large part of cancer research has to be carried out in conjunction with a cancer clinic where patients who are suffering from the disease here and now can be treated and newer methods can be developed to improve the end results.

For example, just yesterday I returned from New York City where I attended the Fellowship Award Committee of the American Cancer Society. This committee's function is to award 200 cancer teaching fellowships to worthy and promising young physicians throughout the United States. It is recognized by this committee that no fellowship should ever be awarded to an institution that does not have a tumor clinic since without such an organization proper facilities for instruction and teaching cannot exist. At our Medical School we have also been asked to participate in a nation wide survey designed to evaluate the

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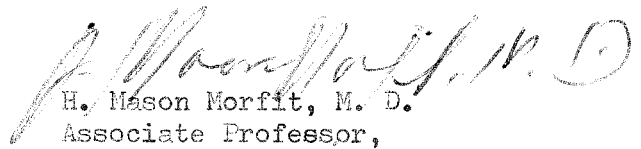
effectiveness, or lack of effectiveness, of some of the newer drugs being developed as hopes for effective cancer therapy. Again, without a going cancer clinic, no such participation would be possible.

To make it very brief, if the support in the amount of \$25,000 a year which has been forthcoming since 1948 to our institution is withdrawn the existence of our Cancer Clinic is threatened. If we abandon our Cancer Clinic we would be in the somewhat ludicrous position of having a number of special fellowships, research programs and other projects in operation but with no facilities to execute them properly.

It is my hope that with all the money that is being assigned broadly to the problem of "health" that someone will see to it the basic nucleus for the proper care of cancer patients (the cancer clinic within the university teaching center) will not be lost sight of. I feel sure that for the small amount of money which it takes to underwrite one of these clinics the returns will be far greater than nine out of ten of the grants devoted to cancer research.

It is possible that this point of view has already been brought to your attention by other interested individuals. Probably in some of the more wealthy institutions the loss of this \$25,000 would not prove a serious handicap. I am sure, however, that in the smaller schools which depend almost entirely for the support of their cancer clinics from this grant that the loss of it is going to prove a serious handicap and will eventually be a set back in the long struggle to develop better means of controlling cancer.

Sincerely yours,


H. Mason Morfit, M. D.
Associate Professor,
Department of Surgery

HMM/mk

cc: William R. Waddell, M. D.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Surgery